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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/774,586	02/10/2004	Bryan Atwood	HITA.0503	1109

7590 06/28/2004
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EXAMINER

ABRAHAM, FETSUM

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2826

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/774,586

Applicant(s)

ATWOOD ET AL.

Examiner

Fetsum Abraham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Claims rejection

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over SEGAWA YUICHI (JP 10134565).

As for claims 1,16,18, the Japanese document shows a structure in figure 2 comprising a memory device having a plurality of word lines (WWL, RWL) and a pair of data lines (WBL, RBL), the word and data lines intersecting at intersection points and a memory cell accessible by the word and data lines formed as a pixel, but omits the functional claim that said distinct word lines may both be active at the same time. However, the indefinite statement that they may be active is by default provided by the prior art since logical memory structures deal with two levels of signals (0 and 1) and both signals considered active because they contain valid data that can be used by the memory structure.

As for claim 2, duplicating the first pixel guarantees the claimed structure. Please note that duplicating a pixel in an array of pixels is normal and in fact the only way to go for memory structures.

As for claims 3-9,13,14-17 the word lines in the prior art are characterized by write and read word lines, the data lines composed of read and write data lines, and the duplication of the pixel allows the array to assemble as many as pairs a specific

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memory capacity can handle. As for the latches and sense amplifiers in integration as in claims 6-8, all memory structure are provided with such elements to correctly handle writing and reading into and from the cells in the array. Further, reading data from a latch rather than from a memory cell is not novel since the latch contains the data stored in memory by virtue of it being the origin of the written data to begin with. As for claim 10, the prior art is a three-transistor memory cell.

As for claims 11,12,19,20 the prior art is generic for the functional language in the claim because the structure is a duplicate of the claimed structure unless the applicant provides evidence otherwise. And the pluralities of elements that make up a single cell in claim 12 are the natural duplicates of the same in a memory array.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Refer to PN: 6,518,620.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fetsum Abraham whose telephone number is: 571-272-1911. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 18:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915.



Fetsum Abraham

6/22/04